

We, the undersigned ask the State of Vermont to fully fund the Parent Child Center Master Grant at a total of \$10 million for FY2019 to close the salary and funding gap. This total will represent an increase of \$8 million.

Parent Child Centers (PCCs) are a network of 15 community-based non-profit organizations, serving all of Vermont. The purpose of each PCC is to provide support and education to families with young children. PCCs use the Strengthening Families Protective Factors Framework with the goal to help all Vermont families get off to a healthy start, promote well-being and build on family strengths.

The PCCs deliver **critical & essential state services** to families with young children.

Parent Child Center staff wages and benefits are continually *30% below market rates* to comparable positions in education and state government. If PCCs are expected to continue to provide **high quality state services**, *PCC wages and benefits must sustain the highly skilled people who do the work.*

PCCs now have a Master grant that adheres to the Sec. E.300.4 of the 2015 Budget Bill: *Human Services; Improving Grants Management for Results-Based Programs*. The Master Grant increases efficiency and clearly identifies Results Based Accountability population outcomes and program performance measures that all PCCs have agreed to adhere to and achieve. **However, the Master Grant does not adequately fund the state services that it requires the PCCs to deliver.** As a result, the PCC staff are literally paying the cost of the state services they provide.

Counseling Service of Addison County
Middlebury

Clarina Howard Nichols Center
Morrisville

VT Achievement Center
Rutland

Bennington Building Bright Futures
Bennington

Lamoille North Supervisory Union
Hyde Park

Wonderfeet Kids Museum
Rutland

Northeast Kingdom Youth Services
St. Johnsbury

Laraway Youth & Family Services
Johnson

Central Vermont Medical Center
Berlin

Association of Africans Living in Vermont, Inc
Burlington

Capstone Head Start
Bradford

CIRCLE
Montpelier

Champlain Valley Head Start
Burlington

Safeline, Inc
Chelsea

Good Samaritan Haven
Barre

Kidsafe Collaborative
Burlington

Orleans County Child Advocacy Center/Special Investigations Unit
Newport

VT Coalition of Runaway & Homeless Youth Programs
Montpelier

Steps to End Domestic Violence
Burlington

Brandon Area Toy Project
Brandon

VT Adult Learning
Waterbury

UVM Children's Hospital
Burlington

Housing Trust of Rutland County
Rutland

Brattleboro Town School District
Brattleboro

UVM Center for Children, Youth & Families
Burlington

Mentor Connector
Rutland

Youth Services
Brattleboro

VT Community Garden Network
Burlington

Rutland County Women's Shelter and Network
Rutland

Easter Seals Vermont – Hartford Office
Hartford

VT Head Start Association
Huntington

Rutland Regional Medical Center
Rutland

Health Care & Rehabilitation Services of Vermont
Springfield

Samaritan House, Inc
St. Albans

Rutland Young Professionals
Rutland

South Royalton Health Center
South Royalton

Yearly Childhood Program
St. Albans

United Way of Rutland County
Rutland

White River Valley Supervisory Union
Royalton